WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.	An image input/output control method comprising:

a storage step of compressing inputted image data with a predetermined compression method according to an
5	image processing mode and storing the compressed image data in a memory;

an output step of outputting the image data stored in said storage step; and

a control step of performing control so as to
10	start the output of the image data in said output step while the image data is being stored in the memory in said storage step.

2.	The image input/output control method according to
15	claim 1,

wherein said storage step compresses image data inputted from a scanner with a fixed length compression method and stores the compressed image data in the memory in the case in which the image processing mode
20	is a high-speed copy mode.

3.	The image input/output control method according to claim 1,

wherein said storage step stores image data
25	inputted from a scanner in the memory without compressing the image data in the case in which the image processing mode is a high-speed copy mode.

4.   The image input/output control method according to claim 1,

wherein said storage step compresses the inputted

5   image data with a variable length compression method
and stores the compressed image data in the memory in
the case in which the image processing mode is a high-
speed copy mode.

10   5.   The image input/output control method according to claim 1,

wherein said output step expands the compressed
data and outputs the expanded image data to a printer.

15   6.   An image input/output apparatus comprising:
storing means which compresses inputted image data
with a predetermined compression method according to an
image processing mode and stores the compressed image
data in a memory;
20   output means which outputs the image data stored
by said storing means; and
control means which performs control so as to
start the output of the image data with said output
means while the image data is being stored in the
25   memory by said storing means.

7.   A program for causing a computer to execute the image input/output control method according to claim 1.

8.   A computer readable recording medium having

5   recorded therein the program according to claim 7.